

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**THIS IS A DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON  
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

The Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting held January 27, 2026 at the Excelsior Springs Community Center was called to order by President Patrick Halfhill at 6:01 p.m.

Roll call was taken with five board members present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President - Patrick Halfhill; Vice-President - Zac Wilkins; Brandon Block; Greg Broadbent; Cindy Spellman

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sherri Branson-Hurt, Mark Bullimore, Terri Irons, Kyle Uptegrove

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** Reggie St. John

**EXCELSIOR SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON:** Doug Baker

**VISITORS:** none

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nate Williams – Director; Drake Pollard – Assistant Director - Recreation/Programs; Taran Svoboda – Assistant Director - Administration; Chad Clevenger – Manager - Parks and Open Spaces; Janet Morehead – Administrative Assistant; Alexis Blankenship – Recreation Coordinator; Brennan Kimball – Marketing and Event Coordinator

Zac Wilkins made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Cindy Spellman seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Zac Wilkins  
Nays – 0

Cindy Spellman made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2025 Parks and Recreation Board meeting as presented. Zac Wilkins seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Zac Wilkins  
Nays – 0

Discussion was held on the Financial Reports dated January 20, 2026. Questions were asked and answered.

Zac Wilkins made the motion to accept the Financial Reports including the 2026 Balance Sheet dated 1/20/2026 Accounting Period 3/2026, page 1; Detail Budget Report dated 1/20/2026 for Accounting Period 3/2026, pages 1 - 3; Revenue Report dated 1/20/2026 for Accounting Period 3/2026, pages 1 - 2; and Nate Williams' 2026 Working Budget through September 2026 as presented.

Cindy Spellman seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Chad Clevenger and crew had no issues with snow removal.

The Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a \$5,800 grant from MLS GO for new soccer equipment and to help offset costs of the program. Thanks Alexis Blankenship and Taran Svoboda for applying for the grant.

ESports Fortnite tourney was well represented - playing online against people from all across Missouri.

28 events have been scheduled for Parks and Rec Month in July.

Youth Fishing Day in July will be a partnership between the local VFW and the Parks and Recreation Department.

FEAT Performance will host a Physical Therapy Workshop on March 16, 2026 at 6 p.m. focusing on youth athletes and youth injuries. Select Physical Therapy will also be in attendance.

FEAT will offer a Physical Therapy Workshop for seniors at a later date.

Drake Pollard continues to work with the Career Center on a Sports Medicine program.

FEAT trained 60 students at the middle school and is working with Richie Marsh on a spring break camp.

Brennan Kimball informed the Board about the Sponsorship Program. There are sponsorship opportunities for both Parks and Recreation and Community Center activities. These sponsorships allow programs to be offered for free or at a reduced cost for participants. Please go to the website for more information on Sponsorship.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS - none**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Nate Williams updated the Board on the Boundless BackYard Park. Caroline Templeton - Landscape Architect with Harper's Playground and Nate Williams held a meeting last Friday on Caroline's concept rendering of the playground area including play structures, 3 bay swing, climbing structure, etc. Elevations, dimensions, and topography were also discussed.

Restrooms are complete and winterized. Work on the shelter progresses.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nate Williams reviewed the basics of the 2021 Parks and Recreation Strategic plan. A new current strategic plan to encompass both Parks and Recreation and the Community Center needs to be made.

A list of Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation board meeting dates are included - some with special notes of meeting date changes, election of officers, etc.

The Parks and Recreation Board - via Nate Williams - received a letter from Christi Rice, ES Parks Foundation President, requesting that Taran Svoboda and Heather Kindle be appointed to the ES Parks Foundation. They would be replacing Kim and Gary Sanson - who have termed off of the Foundation.

Greg Broadbent made a motion to appoint Taran Svoboda and Heather Kindle to the Parks Foundation. Brandon Block seconded the motion, motion passed, 5 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

Piccadilly sold out! There are still more people wanting to attend.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

The next Parks and Recreation Board meeting will be February 17, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Zac Wilkins made the motion to adjourn the January 27, 2026 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Cindy Spellman seconded the motion, passed 5 – 0. A show of hands vote was taken: Ayes – Brandon Block, Greg Broadbent, Patrick Halfhill, Cindy Spellman, Zac Wilkins Nays – 0

The January 27, 2026 Excelsior Springs Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.